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anatomy in the medical faculty for direction in such studies, since with few exceptions the professor of zoölogy is interested solely in the non-vertebrate groups or in the problems of cytology. In America the conditions are widely different. The professor of zoölogy here has to cover both vertebrates and invertebrates, while the student who should go to the anatomical departments of the medical schools would get nothing but human anatomy, and absolutely no breadth of view. So far as we are aware there are but two medical schools in the whole United States where this is not true. With but very few exceptions, the professors of anatomy know nothing of any vertebrate except man, but are usually in the position of that professor who said recently, while studying the lateralis branch of the vagus in the shark, that he was all wrong in calling that nerve a branch of the tenth, because the tenth nerve was distributed only to heart, lungs, and stomach. Had our medical schools professors with broader perspectives, the study of anatomy would have more attractions for the students, and the examinations would no longer be puzzles, but would be of value in testing the real knowledge of the student. In many medical schools in this country the stock question asked in examination in osteology demands a description of either the sphenoid or the petrous portion of the temporal bone, regardless of the fact that these bones are of very little practical importance to the future practitioner. We would not urge our zoölogists to narrow their field, but we would recommend to our professors of anatomy that they make their instruction and their studies comparative. Our medical schools are absolutely unproductive in the field of anatomy; almost all work done on the anatomy of vertebrates in Germany is done in the medical departments of the universities.

**Aberrant Birds' Eggs.**—Some time ago Professor Bumpus showed us that the eggs of the English sparrow in America are variable as well as the adults, and now Mr. J. W. Jacobs points out that the eggs of many of our species vary greatly in coloration, size, and shape. Aberrations of one sort or another are recorded in one hundred and ten species, and several cases are represented by photographic reproductions on two plates. Here is a better occupation than naming new subspecies. We hope Mr. Jacobs's pamphlet will be widely read, and that oölogists will be incited not to gather more birds' eggs, but to *study* the vast collections which have already been made. Mr. Jacobs's pamphlet is entitled "Oölogical Abnormalities," and is published by him at Waynesburg, Pa.